

# QUEEN'S PARK



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## QUEEN'S PARK

*An illustrated guide to the Ontario Parliament Building*



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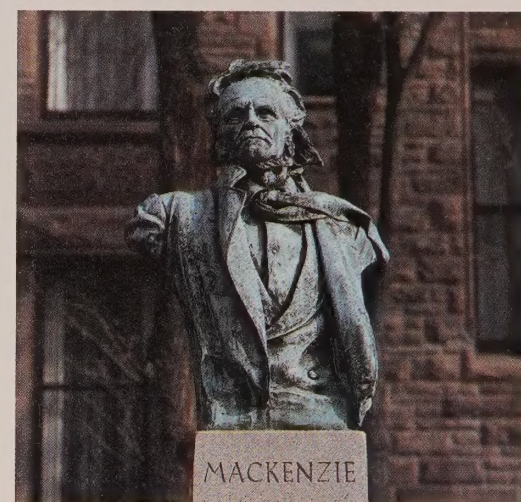
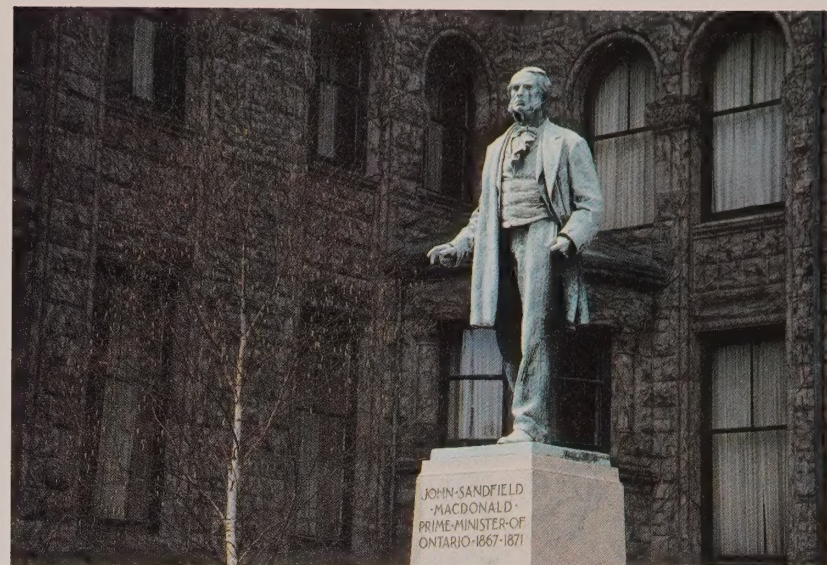






*The statue of Sir John A. Macdonald, the first Prime Minister of Canada marks the southern boundary of Queen's Park. When it was erected in 1894, the monument graced the tree lined apex of University Avenue. It now faces the bustling financial heart of Toronto.*





*Above, Hon. John Graves Simcoe, first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, 1791–1796. Above right, Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald, first Premier of Ontario, 1867–1871. Below right, William Lyon Mackenzie, first Mayor of Toronto, member of the Legislature of Upper Canada, 1828–1836 and 1851–1858. A major reformer, Mackenzie led the movement for responsible government in Ontario and was a leader of the Rebellion of 1837.*



# The Parliament Building

The Ontario Parliament Building appears much as it did on opening day in 1893. Facing south through the park to University Avenue the massive pink sandstone building, with its Romanesque arches, huge windows, and four domes marking each corner of the main block, is an impressive sight.

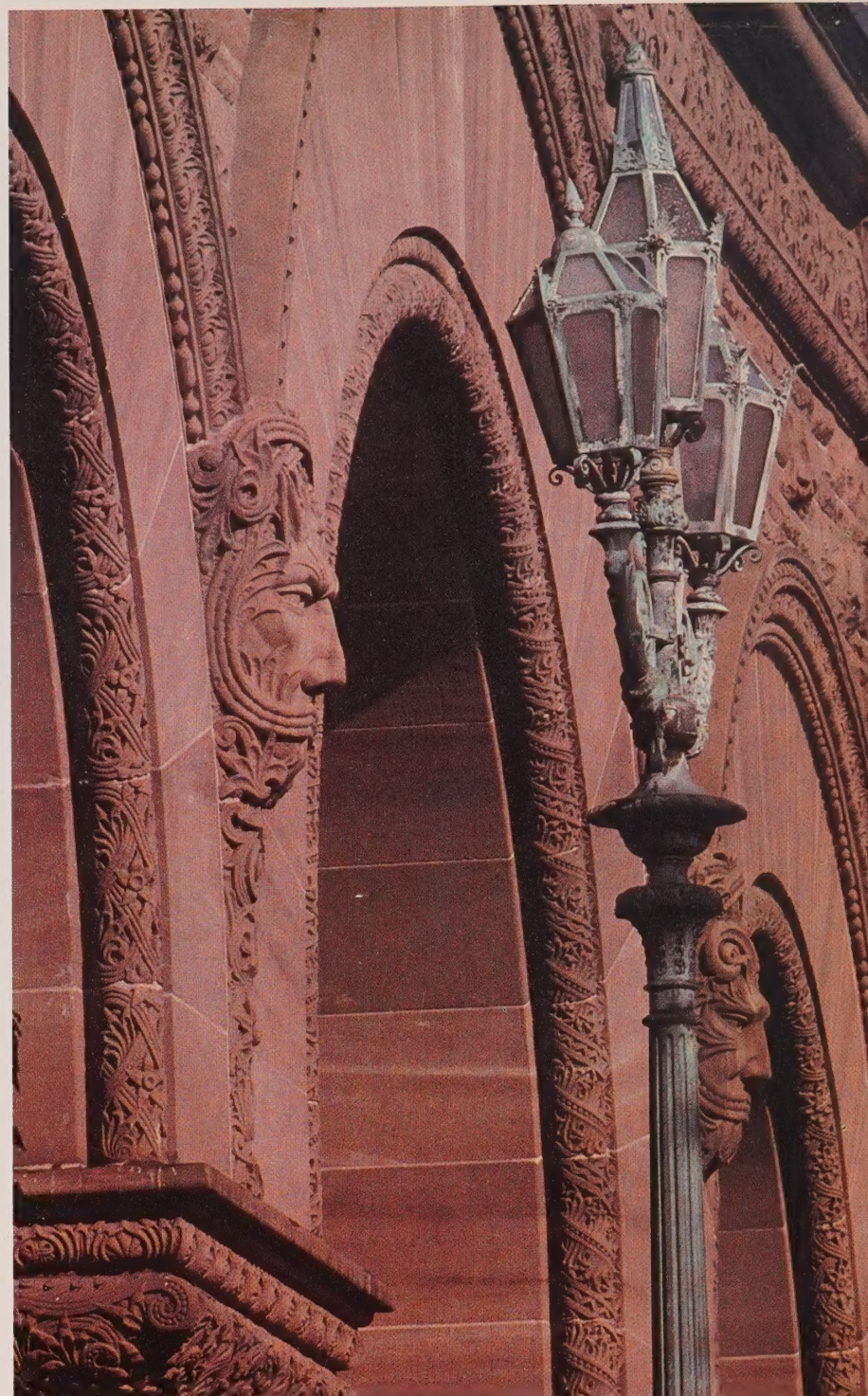
Through sheer size and its considerable charm, the building dominates its immediate surroundings. It stretches 150 metres from east to west. As a result of a fire in 1909 and the subsequent building of a bigger west side, the central block no longer is balanced by two equal wings. Although the stone was matched, an additional floor on the west wing was added and the roof line was changed. The loss of the western pyramidal roof gives the building a lop-sided appearance, not intended by the architect.

Built primarily of Canadian materials, such as pink sandstone from the Credit Valley and Orangeville, and 10.5 million bricks from the Central Prison, the Ontario Parliament Building stands as an impressive tribute to an earlier Ontario. The skill and dedication of the hundreds of labourers, bricklayers, ironworkers, carpenters, carvers, and others is visible throughout the building.

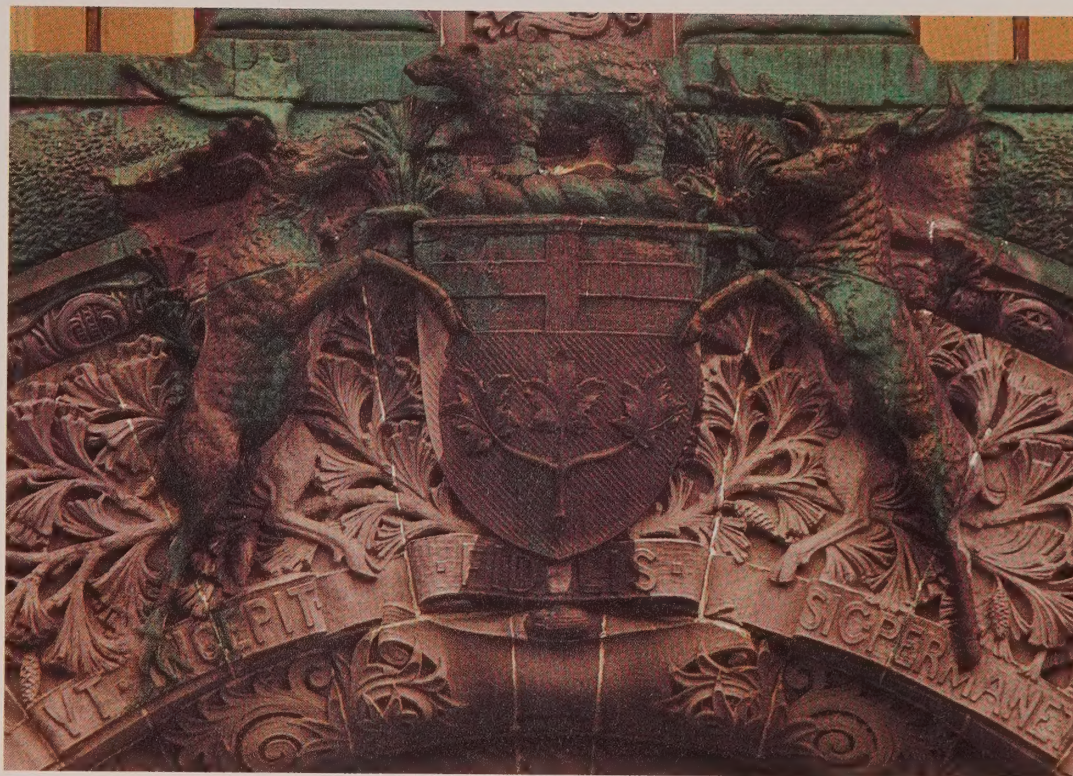
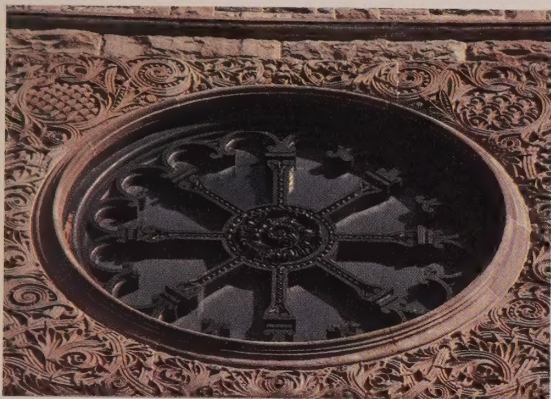
The superior craftsmanship of the stone masons can be appreciated everywhere, from the careful fitting of the rugged limestone blocks to the incredibly ornate carvings and sculptures that decorate the facade. The huge frieze, high above the main entrance and extending over the three arched windows, is 21.3 metres wide and 4.6 metres high. It depicts a myriad of allegorical figures and symbols representing architecture, engineering and literature, clustered around a carving of the Great Seal of Ontario. The detailing is exquisite, and the themes are an aesthetic representation of some of the great purposes of Parliament.

Peeking out from amid the ivy, in nooks and crannies, on the archways, columns and balustrades, there are countless other carvings of famous Canadians, gargoyles, mythical beasts, flowers and tangled foliage. The names of the individual carvers are unknown, but the richness and variety of their work gives the Parliament Building a large measure of its character.

The interior of the Parliament Building is as rich and as diversified as the exterior. The red carpeting throughout is a perfect counterpoint to the burnished browns of the wood panelling and the grey polished marble. Ornamental ironwork is meticulously maintained and gleams in the light







*The arches (opposite) at the front entrance to the Ontario Parliament Building. The distinctive copper gaslight has been retained and converted to electricity. Above left, the rose window in place of the clock that was initially planned for the west tower. An example (left) of the exquisite stone carving found on the front arches. The provincial Coat of Arms (above) is carved above the doors of the North Wing.*





*The Great Seal of Ontario is part of the huge frieze high above the front arches of the Parliament Building. The art of the stone carvers is an important and interesting characteristic of the exterior of the building. This corner (right) is an excellent example of their craftsmanship. Carved representations of animals and people are evident around the exterior of the Parliament Building.*





cast from the hand crafted chandeliers. The wide corridors and soaring ceilings give a spacious air to the complex, a sense enhanced by the light streaming through bevelled glass window panes in the massive doors.

The front doors open upon the expansive main lobby. It is one of the most active parts of the building. The carpeting and fine oak panelling muffle the footsteps of the hundreds of people who pass by each day. Portraits of historical figures grace the walls and cast a stern eye over the busy scene.

Rising majestically away from the lobby, straight to the east and west *porte-cochère* doors, are two broad hallways. The east corridor is highlighted in wood and the newer west hall is faced in Italian marble. Galleries soar above each corridor, opening to stained glass skylights far above.

The great staircase is strategically placed facing the lobby. Like a wide red path, bordered by a wrought iron and mahogany balustrade, it leads first to the entrance hall of the Legislative Library and then turns gracefully to the Legislative Chamber. The Chamber, also known at Queen's Park as "The House" is the heart of the Parliament Building. Surrounded by Members' offices and the Library, it remains the centrepiece of the building.

A grand and noble hall, the Chamber has a floor area 19.8 metres by 24.4 metres, and the ceiling is over 15 metres high. Originally, the ceiling was a mass of colour. Cool greens, rich purples, and autumn hues created visions of maple leaves and celtic scrolls intertwined with the heraldic colours of provincial coat of arms. In 1912, because of poor acoustics in the Chamber, the Press Gallery, which is situated over the Speaker's dais, was lowered two metres and the beautiful artwork of the ceiling was hidden by acoustic tile.

In the centre of the lofty ceiling is a huge ventilating grill 3 metres in diameter, which was intended to keep fresh air circulating within the Chamber. Suspended 9 metres from the ceiling are four spectacular brass chandeliers, each weighing 408 kilograms. The entire room displays a collage of rich colour, sparkling light, filigree glass and fine woodwork.

The panelling is, for the most part, Canadian sycamore with inner panels of mahogany measuring 3 metres high. Scottish master craftsman William McCormack left a priceless legacy in fine woodcarving. It is evident everywhere in the building, but nowhere is it so intricate as in the Chamber itself. On every available surface he and his assistants wove wooden tapestries

of whimsical figures. Bats, dragons, wolves, monkeys, gargoyles, leaves and flowers, as well as crinkled faces and caricatures can be found on every pillar and on every post. There are also several larger carved panels in the Chamber, including that above the Speaker's Chair which displays the Royal Arms and is boldly signed in the lower right hand corner by McCormack himself.

The Clerk's table and chair as well as the majority of members' desks were transported from the Front Street Parliament Buildings. They permanently link nineteenth century statesmen like Macdonald, Blake, and Mowat with such great twentieth century parliamentarians as Mitch Hepburn and George Drew. Every Ontario legislator since 1893 has made his contribution in this chamber. Each in his or her own way has shaped the province's future within its walls.

The Lieutenant Governor occupies a spacious two storey suite in the west wing. Each year thousands of people are formally received by His Honour on behalf of the Government. The suite has been furnished throughout with period furniture and also features an interior staircase. The walls are lined with the framed portraits of previous office holders dressed in splendid uniforms and formal morning clothes.

The Speaker's Apartment on the third floor of the west wing is a self contained unit for the Speaker's personal use. It is also used for small official receptions. The suite allows the Speaker to remain within a few steps from the Chamber so that he may return at any moment should some legislative crisis require his attention.

It would take days to explore the mysteries of every corner of the Parliament Building at Queen's Park. Every inch of space is utilized and there are some treasured places, such as the cavernous attic to be found among the hundreds of offices occupied by Members and staff of the Legislative Assembly. A great number of carvings are scattered throughout the building, and selections from the Ontario Government Art Collection adorn the walls. The building contains a barber shop, a dining room, a carpenters' shop, hidden staircases and, from time to time, even the occasional bat that swoops down from the attic.





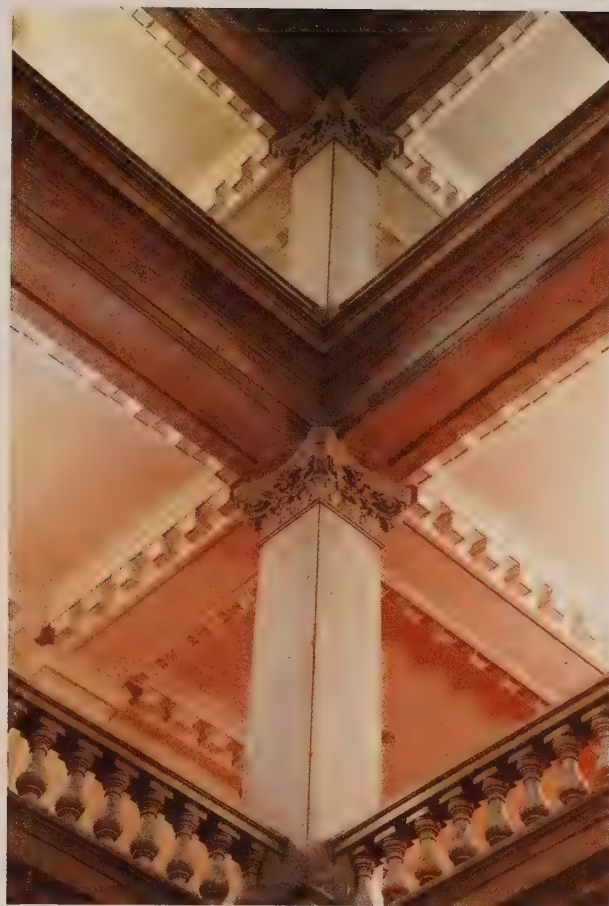
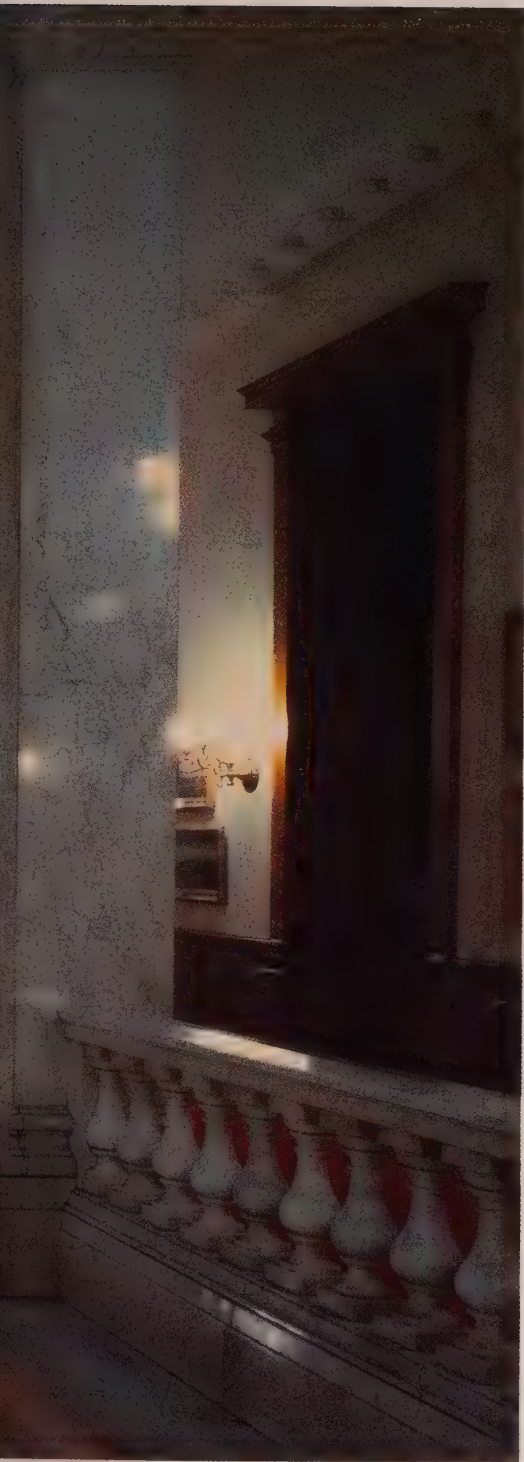


*The magnificent sweep of the Great Staircase with its wrought iron and mahogany balustrade as seen from the top. Above the carved entrance to the Legislative Library is the famous Challenger painting of the Fathers of Confederation. Portraits of early Premiers can be found on either side of the stairs.*









*Constructed of Italian marble after the disastrous fire in 1909, the west wing of the Parliament Building was completed in 1912. A stained glass Coat of Arms and an additional floor were added to the building. The brightness of the marble and its finely chiseled columns contrast with the muted glow of the Canadian wood panelling used elsewhere in the building.*





*The legacy of William McCormack's woodcarving is particularly evident in the Chamber and throughout the building. Whimsical figures and caricatures can be found on every pillar and post. The carved wooden columns above support both the Speaker's Gallery and the Press Gallery. At left, this magnificent representation of the Ontario Coat of Arms is located on the west wall of the Chamber.*





*Beneath the carving of the Coat of Arms is the entrance to the Legislative Chamber. Distinguished by brass fittings and heavy bevelled glass, the doors may be used only by Members of the Ontario Legislative Assembly and Officers of the House when the Legislature is sitting.*









# The Legislative Assembly of Ontario

In our system of responsible government, the Legislative Assembly is composed of the elected Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP'S). Each is elected to represent an electoral district and seeks office as a member of a political party. Following the election, the Lieutenant Governor calls upon the leader of the party with the greatest number of elected members to form a Government. The party with the second largest number becomes the Official Opposition, and remaining opposition parties are ranked according to their relative numbers.

The leader of the governing party, known as the Premier, selects elected Members for his Cabinet. Each is assigned a particular responsibility, usually a Ministry, and collectively they establish government policy. The actual governing of the Province comes through the Legislative Assembly and involves all elected members.

The Legislative Assembly meets in the Chamber. It is divided by a wide centre aisle. At the head of the aisle, opposite the main entrance is the Speaker's dais. The governing party sits to the Speaker's right and members of the opposition parties are seated on the left side. Directly in front of the Speaker's chair is the Clerk's table, upon which the Mace rests when the House is sitting. The Sergeant-at-Arms can be found at his desk near the door, while Hansard interjectionists record every exchange from their position in the centre of the Chamber. Interested citizens observe from the Public Galleries on the east and west sides, while the media representatives work from the Press Gallery located above and behind the Speaker's dais.

This is the setting for the animated and sometimes heated debate while the House is in session. Every government policy, tax or expenditure and every major issue of the day is debated here. Each initiative, generally in the form of a Bill, must be studied, discussed and approved by a majority of members of the Assembly. When the division bells ring throughout the building to summon MPP's, it is here that they record their final vote on matters affecting every citizen of Ontario.

## *Business of the House*

The division bells ring for five minutes each day before the Legislature meets, calling MPP's to take their places in the Chamber. At the appointed hour the Sergeant-at-Arms, carrying the Mace, leads a stately procession of the Speaker, the Clerk and his assistants, and the pages into the House. The Mace is placed on the Clerk's table, and the Speaker reads Prayers before calling for the first order of business, Ministerial Statements. Once Ministers have had the opportunity to announce any Government programs or state Government policy, a full hour is devoted to oral questions.

During Question Period any member, particularly those from the Opposition parties, rise without notice to question members of the Cabinet on any policy matter or current issue. This is the most dramatic part of the legislative day, and debate is often heated and loud. Members punctuate the proceedings with interjections and desk thumping to support their colleagues

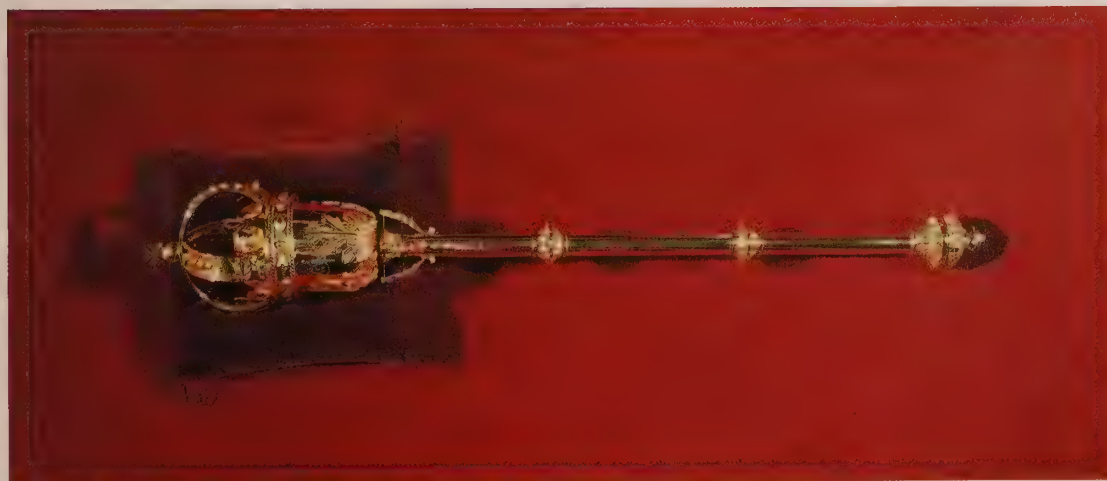
*The Chamber of the Ontario Legislative Assembly as seen from the Speaker's Gallery. The ceiling rises over 15 metres above the Members' desks and supports four chandeliers each weighing over 400 kilograms. In the British Parliamentary tradition, The Speaker presides from the head of the Chamber, with the Government benches on his right and the opposition seated to his left. The Press Gallery is located above and behind the Speaker. The huge windows at the south are draped in red and their vast expanse adds to the richness of the decor.*







*Flanked by the Legislative Pages, and dressed in the traditional robes of his office, the Speaker maintains order in the House. At right, the Sergeant at Arms, carrying the Mace, leads a procession of the Speaker, the Clerks and pages into the chamber. After prayers he maintains his post near the door. Below, the Mace of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. It must be present for each sitting of the House, and occupies a place at the end of the Clerk's table.*







*The Press Gallery is located above the Speaker's dais. Accredited reporters observe and report the proceedings.*

or to assail their opponents.

After Question Period members may present Petitions from their constituents. These generally concern some pressing issue and are directed to the attention of the Lieutenant Governor and the Legislative Assembly. Following tabling of Petitions, Reports from standing or select committees are submitted to the House.

The final item of Routine Proceedings is the Introduction of Bills. This stage, called first reading, allows Ministers and Private Members to present legislative proposals drafted in the form of bills. The title and a brief statement of the purpose of the bill is read to the House.

Once all bills have been introduced for the day, the Orders of the Day are called. This is the official name for the regular business of the House. Debate may be on various bills or resolutions, consideration of expenditure items or other legislative matters. All House business is carried on under formal rules called Standing Orders.

The House generally meets four days a week from March until June, and from early October until mid-December. It sits Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m., and Fridays at 10:00 a.m. Evening debates generally take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m.

#### *The Sergeant-at-Arms and The Mace*

The Sergeant-at-Arms is the custodian of the Mace, which symbolizes royal authority and the power of the Speaker in the House. Prominent in the ceremonial duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Mace must be in the Chamber for business to be conducted.

At each sitting of the House, before prayers are said, the Sergeant-at-Arms traditionally bears the Mace upon his right shoulder and precedes the Speaker upon entering the House. The Sergeant-at-Arms places the Mace on the Table of the House with the Crown pointing toward the Government of the day. If the entire House goes into committee the Mace is ceremoniously removed by the Sergeant-at-Arms and placed in the brackets below the surface of the Table.

Originally the Mace was a medieval weapon – a “spiked club used in battle by clergymen who were forbidden to carry swords”. By 1415, it had become



a symbol of the authority of Kings and parliaments, and of the Speaker in the British Parliament.

The Sergeant-at-Arms is also responsible for maintaining security in the House. He escorts Members from the Chamber when they have been expelled by the Speaker, and ensures that order is maintained in the Public Galleries.

#### *Clerk of the House*

The highly specialized and learned office of the Clerk of the House has evolved from the concept of the "cleric" at a time in history when clergymen were among the few who could read or write. It is a prestigious position which involves an exacting knowledge of legislative procedures and parliamentary administration.

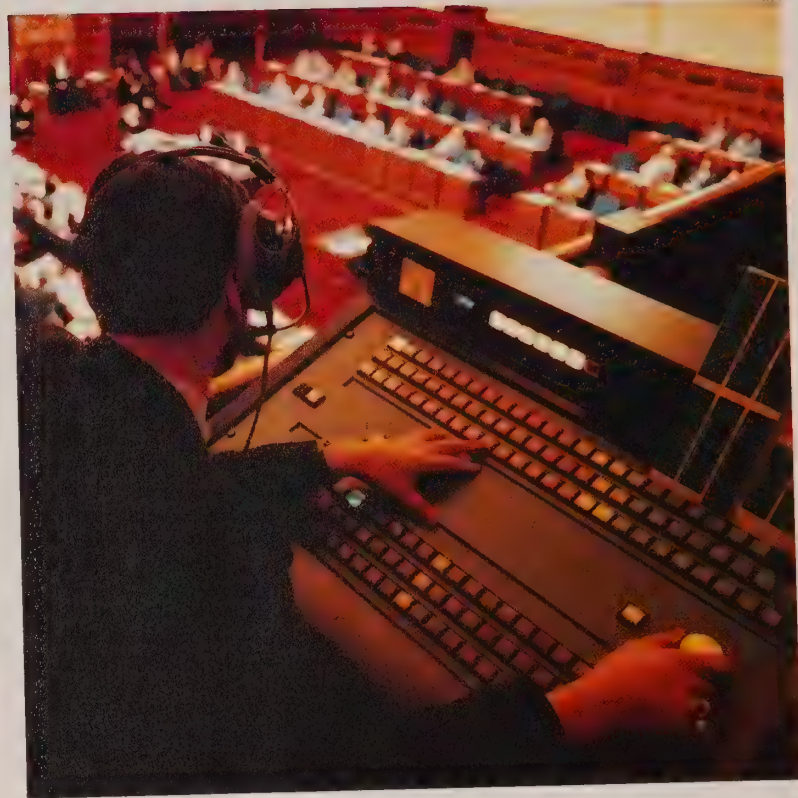
Seated at the Table below the Speaker's Chair and attired in traditional black robes, the Clerk acts as something of a parliamentary solicitor. The Clerk advises and assists the Speaker and the Members on matters of procedure and protocol. In addition, it is the Clerk's responsibility to maintain the official record of all votes, motions and other business of the House.

In the House, the Clerk is aided by Assistant Clerks. Clerks are also assigned to all committees to maintain records and assist the Chairmen.

#### *Hansard*

All debates in the House and legislative committees are recorded and transcribed by the Hansard service of the Legislative Assembly. The verbatim transcript is published by the Assembly and is an invaluable public record of parliamentary proceedings.

Members' contributions are taped from a microphone on each desk. Reporters also take shorthand notes from their positions on the floor of the Chamber to ensure that no relevant comments are missed. Using the most up-to-date word processing and computer technology, Hansard staff transcribe, edit and provide accurate printed copies of debates for Members and the press. Printed copies are available at the Government Bookstore, and bound volumes are prepared for Members and libraries.



*When Members are recognized to speak, a Hansard operator activates the microphones on their desks from a console in the Speaker's Gallery. All proceedings are taped and later transcribed by the Hansard reporting service of the Legislature.*



# The Lieutenant Governor



In Ontario, the Queen is the Head of State. As her representative, the Lieutenant Governor fulfils a role similar to that of the Governor General. Appointed by recommendation of the Federal Cabinet, the Lieutenant Governor is the province's official host or hostess for special ceremonial occasions. The office carries with it an important role in parliamentary procedure.

The Legislative Assembly does not have the power to legislate without the assent of the Crown; thus, the Lieutenant Governor is called upon to open, prorogue and dissolve the Legislature, and also to assent to Bills. He or she may also exercise the prerogative of pardon and retains the power to refuse a dissolution of Parliament.

On the opening day of a new session it is the vice-regal presence which dominates the proceedings. Traditionally, the Lieutenant Governor, in full formal dress, arrives in a horse-driven landau, and leads the procession to the House. After being ushered into the House, the Lieutenant Governor indicates that he or she will depart. The Members of the House then select a Speaker. The Speaker, in turn, vacates his or her chair to the Lieutenant Governor who reads the Speech from the Throne. After reading the Speech, which formally announces the Government's Legislative programme, the Lieutenant Governor departs, never again to return to the House during that session, except to sign bills into law.

For nearly half a century, the official residence of the Lieutenant Governor has been located at Queen's Park. The ornate suite occupies two floors of the West Wing. Formal dinners and large receptions take place on a regular basis as the Lieutenant Governor meets citizens from every walk of life.

*For nearly half a century, the official residence of the Lieutenant Governor has been located in the Parliament Building. The ornate suite occupies two floors of the west wing, and is used on a regular basis for formal and informal receptions.*







# The Speaker



*The Speaker maintains a suite on the third floor of the west wing of the Parliament Building. The suite ensures that the Speaker can carry out the official entertaining required by the office while being able to return to the House on short notice.*

The office of the Speaker is an ancient and honourable one, dating from 14th century England when the Speaker literally “spoke” to the King on behalf of Parliament.

The Speaker, garbed in the official dark robe and tricorne hat, wields a great deal of power and prestige in our present parliamentary system. An elected Member selected by the Assembly, the Speaker presides over most business conducted in the House and the authority of the office is recognized and respected by all Members. The Speaker holds office for the life of the Parliament, or until resignation. The primary role is that of regulating the debate and enforcing the rules of conduct in the House. Strictly impartial, the Speaker is not allowed to participate in debates, or to vote, except in the event of a tie. Should the Speaker be absent from the House or wish to leave the chair, the Deputy Speaker, who is also the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House, is called upon to preside. In their absence other members may be designated “acting Speaker”.

From the throne-like chair, the Speaker chooses the order in which the Members may speak and calls upon them in turn. In the House, Members are not permitted to address each other directly. They are required to direct their comments through the Speaker. It is also the Speaker who guides the Legislature through all matters of procedure and rules on points of order and points of privilege. The rulings become established precedents which are used to guide future Speakers. The Speaker has the power to expel a Member from the House, suspend a sitting or adjourn the House without motion in cases of disorder or misconduct. No Member speaks or stands when the Speaker rises to address the House.

In addition to the duties in the House, the Speaker’s jurisdiction embraces all operational functions relating to the Legislative Assembly. As Chairman of the Board of Internal Economy, he or she is responsible for allocating Assembly funds and providing staff and services to Members, including Hansard, food services, library facilities and the printing of official documents.





*The Speaker's dais is the focal point of the Legislative Chamber. It is exquisitely carved, and the Royal Arms behind the chair is a single piece of mahogany.*





*The Parliament Building is equipped with several rooms for parliamentary committees. The Amethyst Room, named after the official mineral of the province, is extensively used for public hearings.*





*The Cabinet meets in the Executive Council Chamber. The decor has been largely unchanged since the building was constructed and it provides an impressive setting for Cabinet deliberations.*





*The provincial Coat of Arms is carved in sandstone above the north door of the Ontario Parliament Building.*



# FRONT STREET AND QUEEN'S PARK

*Until 1893, the Ontario Legislative*

*Assembly met in buildings constructed for  
legislative purposes and opened in 1832.*

*Theirs is an interesting history, and it was  
not until 1893 that they were abandoned.*

*Queen's Park was then opened with the  
ceremony and celebration worthy of a  
modern new Parliament Building.*



## The Front Street Parliament Buildings



*The Front Street Parliament Buildings served the needs of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario from 1867 until 1892.*



The first Parliament Buildings occupied by the Ontario Legislative Assembly at the time of Confederation in 1867 were located in Toronto at Front and Simcoe Streets. The building, completed in 1832 at a cost of \$40,000, was the third erected for Parliamentary purposes in Upper Canada. The Parliament Street building was burned by the Americans in 1812 and the second building at King and Berkley Streets was burned accidentally in 1824.

The Georgian style building at Front Street had a colourful and varied history even before it served as the seat of Ontario's first Provincial Parliament. From 1832 to 1841 it was the site of the Legislature of the Province of Upper Canada. The Legislature of the United Provinces was located there from 1849 to 1851 and again from 1855 to 1859. In 1839 the Court of Queen's Bench convened in the building and King's College used a portion in 1846. The period from 1861 until 1867 found the building to be a military barracks. By far the most unusual usage occurred during 1848 and 1849 when the future home of the Ontario Legislature was used as a lunatic asylum.

For the first few years after Confederation, the Legislative Assembly was adequately served by the Front Street Parliament Building. By the mid-1870s, it became apparent that the grand old building no longer met the needs of a growing government. The structure that had withstood the rebellion of 1837, witnessed the fiery oratory of William Lyon Mackenzie, and had been used by such important Canadian historical figures as Lord Durham, Sir John A. Macdonald, George Brown, and Sandfield Macdonald, was rapidly deteriorating. In 1880 the



*The interior of the Front Street Parliament Building, showing the Legislative Chamber. Members' desks, and the Clerk's table and chair were moved to the new building. The dingy building was demolished after the move in 1893.*





*The Chamber of the Front Street Parliament Building, showing the Speaker's chair.*

Public Works Department Architect reported that the building would require extensive repairs from the roof to the basement if the health and safety of its inhabitants were to be maintained.

One interesting eye witness to the condition of the Front Street Parliament Buildings was the Hon. George W. Ross, who served as Minister of Education before assuming the office of Premier from 1899 until 1905. On first visiting the Legislative Assembly in 1883, he noted "I presented myself along with the other duly elected members to be sworn in and await the opening of the Assembly. Although well acquainted with Toronto and its public institutions, this was the first time I had ever looked upon the Parliament Buildings, and they certainly were not much to look at. They appeared to be a rambling irregular pile of red brick, without any architectural beauty, purpose, or design, except to enclose so much space within their walls."

Mr. Ross was not greatly impressed with the interior of the building either. "The Legislative Chamber" he observed "is no more attractive in its fittings and decorations than it is architecturally. The throne has no crimson hangings or gilded ornaments like the throne in Ottawa. The gallery is small and dingy-looking, the ceiling low and the walls discoloured. Simplicity and economy have joined hands in resisting the meretricious and extravagant."

The buildings continued to decline until 1893 when the new Ontario Parliament Building at Queen's Park was completed and ready for occupation. Once the move was complete, the Front Street site was stripped of furnishings, sold and demolished by the Grand Trunk Railway.



# Construction of the Queen's Park Parliament Building

The choice of a suitable architect for the Parliament Building was extremely difficult and controversial. In 1880 a competition was organized for the design and construction of a new Parliament Building to be located in Queen's Park. Costs were not to exceed \$500,000.00.

For the initial competition sixteen plans were submitted to a special three man committee. As no design was completely acceptable, six of the applicants were invited to submit modified plans in early 1881. Subsequently, tenders for the plans of Gordon and Helliwell, and Darling and Curry the two Toronto firms chosen, were received early in 1882. It was soon evident that the sum of \$500,000.00 would be inadequate for construction of the buildings, and after considerable delay, an additional \$250,000.00 was approved by the government in 1885.

Once the additional funds had been secured, Mr. Richard F. Waite, an architect from Buffalo, New York was appointed as "expert examiner" to examine the two sets of plans and specifications. Waite had been a member of the earlier committee and, surprisingly, he rejected both submissions. After five years of planning, the Ontario Legislature was still located at the decrepit Front Street building. The government believed that further competition would yield the same unsatisfactory results, and appointed Mr. Waite as architect.

The rejection of the Canadian proposals and the subsequent choice of an American to design the provincial capital building provoked a storm of protest in the Legislature and in architectural circles. Editorials were written decrying the choice, and the Minister was under extreme pressure to explain the circumstances and justify



*Despite considerable political controversy, construction of the Ontario Parliament Building proceeded smoothly.*

Mr. Waite's commission. The Commissioner of Public Works was called upon to give to the House the details of the competition. As he was also regularly required to seek Legislative approval for all costs, the details were often debated.

The Parliament Building was erected in amazingly short time, considering that it was subject to public scrutiny through every step of construc-

tion. Top quality materials were used throughout, and building costs proved to be extremely economical. Construction proceeded quickly and efficiently in spite of the controversy over the selection of the architect, and the delay in securing acceptable plans and suitable funding. The building was in readiness for its grand opening on April 4, 1893.



# The Official Opening, April 4, 1893

The Queen's Park Parliament Building was inaugurated in gala fashion to mark the opening of the Third Session of the Seventh Parliament on April 4, 1893. The April 5, 1893 *Globe* captured the sense of occasion:

## ONTARIO'S PARLIAMENT The Legislature Gathers at the New Buildings IMMENSE THRONGS

The Opening of the Legislature and the new Parliament Buildings yesterday was a notable occasion. The completion of the building marks an epoch in the history of the province. The session upon which the Legislature is entering is the twenty-third of Sir Oliver Mowat's premiership and it is the first time Lieutenant Governor Kirkpatrick has officiated at the ceremonies.

There was a rush of people in the corridors and on the broad staircases outside the chamber, and a continuous stream of carriages was rolling up to the entrances. A belated March wind was sweeping across Queen's Park, enveloping carriages and pedestrians in clouds of dust gathered from the new-made grounds around the building and storming them with last year's leaves, finding nothing it could damage except an insecure window which it blew in, and the brand new ensign upon the main tower, which it tore to ribbons.

The galleries were opened at 2:00 p.m. and that hour found a wriggling mass of humanity at the doors - men and women of respectability and great good nature, but all trying to squeeze past those in better positions than themselves. To nearly all of those who crowded into the galleries or were accommodated with seats upon the floor, it was their first sight of the handsome chamber. All comments were of admiration and delight.

It was what is usually spoken of as a representative gathering. Ladies came in evening dress, consuls general were dressed in blue and gold, and a number of militia

officers in scarlet, tartan and sans culottic uniforms marched in.

Shortly after 2:30 p.m. a detachment of the Toronto Field artillery galloped up and fired the official salute. Then after the arrival of the redcoated honour guard, the white plumed cavalry dashed up the drive and halted in a semi circle while the Governor's carriage drew up at the grand entrance. As the party alighted, the band of the guard of honour played a stanza of the national anthem. The gubernatorial party proceeded along the arcade to the grand staircase and up to the Chamber between the closely packed lines of citizens while the combined bands of the Queen's Own Rifles and the Thirteenth Battalion of Hamilton played the national anthem from their stand at the foot of the grand staircase. The thousands outside dispersed slowly either to promenade the corridors or to wind their way homewards.

### *In the Chamber*

The scene within was one of surprising grandeur, the like of which has never been equalled on any state occasion in this province. What with the flowered and frescoed interior of the chamber and the brilliant costumes of the ladies, there was a harmony of colour and beauty. The prevailing tints were pale green and heitrope.

Precisely at 3:00 Mr. Speaker Ballantyne, preceeded by Sergeant-at-Arms Glackmeyer bearing a gilded Mace, marched into the chamber, climbed upon the throne and demanded order.

When the House adjourned the Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Kirkpatrick held a reception, in the new building.

The buildings were ablaze with light last evening, and being thrown open to the public the interior looked like a crowded night at an industrial fair. The corridors and public rooms were thronged with visitors who were regaled with music from the splendid band of the 15th Battalion.

# The

NUMBER 13451.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY

## ONTARIO'S PARLIAMENT.

### The Legislature Gathers at the New Buildings.

### IMMENSE THRONGS.

### The Park Crowded All Afternoon.

### ADDRESS FROM THE THRONE.

### A Great Reception in the Chamber.

### SEVERAL HUNDRED CITIZENS PAY THEIR RESPECTS—A PRESENTATION TO SIR OLIVER.

The opening of the legislature and the new parliament buildings yesterday was a notable occasion. The completion of the building marks an epoch in the history of the province; the session upon which the legislature is entering is the twenty-third of Sir Oliver Mowat's premiership, and it was the first time Lieutenant-Governor Kirkpatrick has officiated at the ceremonies. It was therefore from several reasons that yesterday's proceed-

of "God save Lieutenant-governor Mowat" he made by his secreted by a score read the speech clear tones, the benefit of the session. suite for the disposed of. introduction of and Toronto. Smith, was I and Harcourt Messrs. Mercer leader of the well, and as in his button time-honored of the bill for of office, by the right of matters not the throne that the speech "to-morrow" promised the remarking the speech be counts and down, and financial state he will beat in the session. When the Lieutenant-governor held a reception front of the military office. For three-quarters and shook filed past from a gall would have had not been who were of making throne, and the ceremony's function, he and his increased the ed since the After the the lifeline.



# Globe.

DAY, APRIL 5, 1893.

PRICE TH

Queen" announced the arrival, and pre-appearance, preceded A.D.C.'s, and follow-military officers. He the throne in strong, ve every one present lined programme for en retired with his ment formalities to be consisted of the in-w members for Peel former, Mr. John ed by Messrs. Hardy d Dr. Ryerson. By id E. F. Clarke. The on looked strong and as the yellow rosebud The premier made the for the first reading ministration of oaths session after session, legislature to deal with ent in the speech from uted. He also moved ken into consideration taking the motion he a busy session by he debate upon the to-day the public ac- es will be brought surer will make his next day. At that rate cord made at Ottawa closed.

ad adjourned the leu- and Mrs. Kirkpatrick. They stood just in e, about which the med a circle of honor. of an hour they bowed with the people who wding line. Regarded ndpoint the reception re interesting if there shaking to save those d from the necessity mail bows before the required at their ex- rooms at Ottawa. The was an entire success, Mrs. Kirkpatrick in- rity they have earn- to Government house. on the presentation of of Sir Oliver Mowat support was made

middle corps and other military dignitar- les, including Lieut.-Col. Otter, A. D. G., Lieut.-Col. G. T. Denison, Lieut.-Col. Gravelly, Lieut.-Col. R. B. Hamilton, Lieut.-Col. G. D. Dawson, Lieut.-Col. Jones (8th battalion), Lieut.-Col. John I. Davidson, Lieut.-Col. Miligan, Capt. Harston, Capt. Elliott and Capt. Macdon- aid. These were in waiting to receive the lieutenant-governor, and they had not long to wait, for, several minutes before 3 o'clock, the bright glitter of the hel- mets of the escort, composed of a de- tachment of the Governor-General's Body Guards, under Lieut.-Col. Orlando Dunn, could be discerned wheeling into the avenue from Queen street. Just at that moment some one in the group of offi- cers at the entrance asked where the guard of honor was located, and a wild consternation manifested itself on all sides when it was discovered that no guard of honor had materialized. Nearer and nearer came the prancing steeds of his honor's escort, and in a few moments more the governor would be at the door, and no guard of honor to receive him. It was too late to find out what had happened to the detachment of No. 2 company, R.S.I., which had been detailed for the duty, and it appeared for the moment that nothing could be done, but just in the nick of time the anxiously- expected redcoats wheeled into the park from College street, and a sigh of relief went up from the officers at the entrance. The boys from the fort were 25 file strong, under command of Major Buch- an, Capt. Laurie and Lieut. Fleet, and were headed by their band. Such close connection did they make with the ad- vancing guards, that the latter halted for five minutes to give them time to get into position.

Then the white-plumed cavalry dashed up the drive and halted in a semi-circle, while the governor's carriage drew up at the grand entrance. Accompanying his honor the lieutenant-governor, who was clothed in his official uniform of black and gold, with plumed hat and sword, were Lieut.-Col. Sir Casimir Gzowski, A. D.C., and Captain Law, R.N., his hon- or's official secretary. As the party alighted, the band of the guard of honor played a stanza of the national anthem. After retiring for a moment to a wait- ing-room set apart for his honor's con- venience at the left of the main corridor, the gubernatorial party proceeded along the aisle to the grand staircase, and up to the chamber, between the closely- packed lines of citizens, while the com- bined bands of the Queen's Own rifles and the Thirteenth battalion of Hamil- ton, under Bandmaster Robinson, played the national anthem from their station at the foot of the grand staircase. The

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*The Globe*, Toronto, April 5, 1893.





*Photography by Andrew McKim  
Design by Keith Scott*







